



## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN COORDINATING GROUP**

---

**Bureau of Indian Affairs** (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)  
**Bureau of Land Management** (Colorado and Wyoming)  
**Fish and Wildlife Service** (Mountain/Prairie Region)  
**Forest Service** (Rocky Mountain Region)  
**National Park Service** (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)  
**State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas**

Spring Meeting  
April 5, 2007

Attendees: Bill Wallis, Dave Carter, Jim Fletcher, Bill Ott, Sue Muir, Rich Homann, Dean Clark, Tom Morford, Dan Morford, Ray Weidenhaft, John Glenn, Joe Lowe, Bob Jones, Ross Hauck, and Don Westover.

Joe Lowe, Chairman open the meeting and welcome everyone. Discussion was held on what the Executive Board Agenda should be.

### Team Reports:

Team A: Don Angell, IC:

Don talked about equipment needs for the team to do their job. The biggest equipment issue seems to be computers. The team needs to have access to computers. The team appreciated seeing the RMCG members out with them on assignments. They feel they got very good feed back from them. They welcome the audits that RMCG does, they feel they can't improve if they don't know their weaknesses.

Type I Team: Ted Moore, Deputy IC

Echo's what Don was saying, appreciates RMCG coming out and seeing how the team performs on an incident. Wants to thank the Operations Committee for all the help they gave in filling openings on the team. The Type I Team has the same equipment needs that all the other teams have, computers, power point projector, and IT support.

Team C: Joe Lowe, IC

Team had a very good year the first year. We have a very strong team with a lot of talent on it. This team is fortunate because the Governor of South Dakota supports this team which allows us to purchase many of the items we need. The Great Plains Board of Directors would like the team to use the trainees from the Great Plains Zone on the team first, and then go to the regional trainee list next.

Team B: Pete Blume, IC

Team B had a really good year last year. The team will be fully staffed this year except for air. Jim Dunn will be the Air Operations Section Chief but we are short in air on the team. Biggest issue for us is equipment support.

FUMT: Bill Hahnenberg, IC

Team size is a concern for the team. Fire Use is being asked to handle more complex incidents each year. It becomes very difficult when limited to the size that the team is. Bill feels that he will have a good team this year and appreciates the operations committee helping him put it together. Bill appreciates that RMCG is willing to look at his proposal and consider his request on team size.



## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN COORDINATING GROUP**

**Bureau of Indian Affairs** (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)  
**Bureau of Land Management** (Colorado and Wyoming)  
**Fish and Wildlife Service** (Mountain/Prairie Region)  
**Forest Service** (Rocky Mountain Region)  
**National Park Service** (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)  
**State Agencies in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas**

### **Charter:**

Dean Clark feels that there will be very few changes to the Charter. He will make those changes and get the new charter to RMCG members. A motion was made to add Don Westover to the rotation for RMCG Chairman. Motion was second by Dean Clark, all moved in favor. Don will be added to the bottom of the rotation right after BLM, CO. Motion was made to approve the charter by Rich Homann, second by Ross Hauck, all approved, motion was carried.

### **Dispatch Report:**

Jim Fletcher discussed the surprise drill that is planned for regional dispatch centers. He stated that he doesn't believe that anybody really knows about this. RMCG members were not aware of this either. RMCG feels that this type of drill is not a bad idea but that the aviation committee and the dispatch committee should both be made aware of it. Dispatch Centers don't necessary need to know when a surprise drill might happen but they should be aware that it could happen. All agreed with this.

Dispatch Committee would like to dissolve themselves. They feel that there is no reason they need to continue meeting. RMCG is opposed to this, the committee needs to continue. It was decided that Joe as the Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group Chair would contact the Dispatch Committee Chair and discuss this issue with him by conference call.

### **Public Information Officer:**

Bill Ott was approach by his agency; they would like to hire a communication specialist to support RMAC. This position would be the one that Larry Helmerick currently has. Discussion was held on weather this position would remain interagency. Bill O. stated that yes this position would remain interagency, that Jim Fletcher would still be the supervisor for this position. It was decided Bill Ott would write a letter to the Forest Service explain RMCG position on the PIO position, that this position needs to remain interagency with its message. Joe Lowe as the Chair of RMCG will sign the letter.

### **Training Committee Charter:**

The RMCG members went through the training committee charter and discussed purposed changes. A motion was made to leave the voting members the same as they are now in the charter. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Ott. 9 voted in favor, 2 opposed. Motion was carried. As the RMCG members went through the charter it was decided that Dave Carter would go back to the training committee with the purposed changes that RMCG came up with.

### **Team Evaluation Forms:**

Discussion was held on the evaluation form for the team assignments this year. Several suggestions were made to make the form a little more user friendly. Bill Ott will make the suggested changes to the team evaluation forms for this year's fire season.

Meeting was adjourned.